

REMARKS

Claims 1–2, 7, 11, 26, and 35–37 are hereby canceled without prejudice to the Applicants' rights to later pursue the claims in this or any other related application. Claims 3–6, 8–10, 12–25, and 27–33 are currently pending. Applicants have amended the claims to further clarify the invention and request reconsideration.

The undersigned attorney and John Bianco, Esq. would like to thank both Examiner Hunyh and Supervisory Examiner Herndon for their time and input during the two telephonic interviews of September 3, 2003. Specifically with respect to the Interview Summary issued by Examiner Hunyh mailed on September 10, the undersigned attorney respectfully clarifies that participant (4), Jay Gordon, is the undersigned attorney, "Jed" Edward A. Gordon.

Independent Claim 12 is Patentable Over the Cited References

As discussed with Examiners Herndon and Hunyh, independent claim 12, prior to amendment, recited "attaching the endnote to the report after the text, without altering the text." To further clarify at least one of the novel and non-obvious aspects of independent claim 12, the Applicants amend independent claim 12 to recite "attaching the endnote to the report after the text, without adding or deleting characters from the text."

As discussed during our interview, *Kraft* teaches changing Fig. 6 into Fig. 7, thus adding or deleting characters from the text in contravention of the limitation recited in independent claim 12. Similarly, *Nielsen* teaches adding "a footnote reference character 927" to a document (see Figs. 9A and 9B) in contravention of the limitation.

As discussed during our interview, a problem that the invention addresses is that adding characters to a document, as described in *Kraft* and *Nielsen*, destroys the legal integrity of the

document. In contrast, “attaching the endnote” according to the method of claim 12, “without adding or deleting characters” does not. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of independent claim 12 and pass it on to allowance. Since claims 13–18 depend from claim 12 and recite further limitations thereon, Applicants request that Examiner also pass these claims on to allowance.

Independent Claim 19 is Patentable over *Kraft* and *Nielsen*

Independent claim 19 recites “opening and displaying the text at a terminal” and “activating the link.” *Kraft* teaches printing a document into a printable medium. See Abstract. Printed documents cannot be opened and displayed a terminal, and links within a printed document cannot be activated. *Nielsen* teaches “rendering a hypertext document for storage in a noninteractive form.” See Abstract. Links within a noninteractive document cannot be activated. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of independent claim 19 and pass it on to allowance. Since claims 20–25 depend from claim 19 and recite further limitations thereon, Applicants request that Examiner also pass these claims on to allowance.

Amended Independent claim 3 is Patentable

The Office Action states that claims 3, 4–6, 8–10, and 14 would be patentable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Amended claim 3 has been amended to include all limitations of its base claim. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the claim and pass it on to

allowance. Since claims 4-6, 8-10, and 14 depend on claim 3, the Applicants request that these claims be passed on to allowance, as well.

CONCLUSION

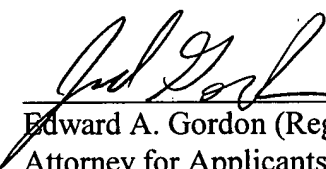
In view of the foregoing, the Applicants submit that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Applicants request reconsideration, withdrawal of all grounds of rejection, and allowance of all of the pending claims in due course.

As per Examiner Herndon's agreement with John Bianco, if it is determined that this response merits a further Office Action, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner telephone John Bianco or the undersigned attorney to discuss such Action before it is entered.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 19, 2003

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